(c) when the project is likely to be completed and start production?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). It would not be in the public interest to disclose this information.

(c) Phase I of the project is scheduled/ anticipated to be completed by June – 1993 and production is likely to commence in 1993.

Revision of Price Index

3851. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several trade union organisations have raised objection to the fact that the price indices do not reflect the increase in prices of various items correctly;

(b) if so, whether the government propose to revise the method of preparing price indices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The current series of consumer price index numbers (CPI) for industrial workers with base 1982=100 was released in October, 1988, restructuring and modifying the earlier series with base 1960. This series has been constructed based on methdology decided by the Technical Advisory Committee on Statistics of Prices and Cost of Living (TAC on SPCL) under the chairmanship of the Director–general, Central Satistical Organisation, with professionals from concerned ministries as members. Detailed discussions and consultations were held with the representatives of trade union organisations before the release of this series. A fresh Working Class Family Income & Expenditure survey is proposed to be conducted during 1992–93 to shift the base of the price index to 1992–93.

Nhava sheva Port

3852. PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI:
SHIR SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMANT:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether allegations have been made regarding serious financial irregularities in Jawahar Lal Nehru (Nhava Sheva) Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c)) the amount involved therein; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). In the Audit Report on the Annual Accounts of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for the year 1990–91, certain Audit objections were raised. These relate to short levy of shortage charges in respect of bulk cargo; avoidable expenditure due to incorrect estimation in respect of container freight station; improper certification of certain bills; avoidable project expenditure; wrong payment to a contractor in respect of main civil works etc. Audit observed that this has resulted in loss of revenue to the Port amounting to about Rs. 7.67 crores.

(d The Audit objection swee examined by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port authorities